



PATENT APPLICATION  
Atty. Docket Q63373

A-7  
11/23/01  
JP

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of

BRUECKNER, Dieter, et al.

Appln. No.: 09/812,570

Confirmation No.: 2637

Filed: March 21, 2001

For: NETWORK AND COUPLING DEVICE FOR CONNECTING  
TWO SEGMENTS IN A NETWORK

RECEIVED

JUL 05 2001

Technology Center 2600

Group Art Unit: 2661

Examiner: Unassigned

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Prior to examination, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Please amend the specification as follows:

Page 1, first paragraph: This is a Continuation of International Applications

PCT/DE99/03041 and PCT/DE99/03038, each with an international filing date of September 22, 1999, which were published under PCT Article 21(2) in German, and the disclosures of which are incorporated into this application by reference.

Page 2, Delete the entire 2<sup>nd</sup> full paragraph.

Page 3, paragraph 1: To attain these and other objects, according to one formulation of

the invention, the new network is divided into several segments interconnected by at least one coupling device. The coupling device has means for measuring the predefined slot time in the

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